

“(iii) SECOND TEMPORARY PERCENTAGE.—During the period beginning on the first day after the date of enactment of this clause and ending on September 30, 2004, the annual fee assessed and collected under clause (i) shall be equal to 0.35 percent of the outstanding balance of the deferred participation share of the loan.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day after the date of enactment of this Act and are repealed on October 1, 2004.

**SEC. 4. RECONSIDERATION OF LOAN APPLICATIONS REJECTED BASED ON LOAN AMOUNT.**

(a) CONSIDERATION OF LOAN APPLICATION SUBMITTED BEFORE JANUARY 8, 2004.—Beginning on the first day after the date of enactment of this Act, the Small Business Administration shall reconsider any application submitted on or after December 23, 2003 and before January 8, 2004, under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) that was rejected based on the loan amount requested before considering any other application if the applicant is otherwise eligible for financial assistance under that section.

(b) EXPORT WORKING CAPITAL.—Any small business that received financing under section 7(a)(14) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(14)) before January 1, 2004, and requests a renewal of such financing, shall have their request approved regardless of the size of such financing (subject to the limitations in section 7(a)(3) of such Act) if the small business is otherwise eligible for such financing under that section.

(c) MAXIMUM LOAN AMOUNT.—Ten days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Small Business Administration shall allow loans under section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) up to the maximum amount permitted under the Small Business Act.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

**SENATE RESOLUTION 317—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING AWARENESS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS, SUPPORTING PROGRAMS FOR INCREASED RESEARCH AND IMPROVED TREATMENT OF AUTISM, AND IMPROVING TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM**

Mr. HAGEL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 317

Whereas the Autism Society of America, Cure Autism Now, the National Alliance for Autism Research, Unlocking Autism, and numerous other organizations commemorate April as National Autism Awareness Month;

Whereas autism is a developmental disorder that is typically diagnosed during the first 3 years of life, robbing individuals of their ability to communicate and interact with others;

Whereas autism affects an estimated 1 in every 250 children in America;

Whereas autism is 4 times more likely in boys than in girls, and can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, or other factors;

Whereas the cost of specialized treatment in a developmental center for people with autism is approximately \$80,000 per individual per year;

Whereas the cost of special education programs for school-aged children with autism is often more than \$30,000 per individual per year;

Whereas the cost nationally of caring for persons affected by autism is estimated at more than \$90,000,000,000 per year; and

Whereas despite the fact that autism is one of the most common developmental disorders, many professionals in the medical and educational fields are still unaware of the best methods to diagnose and treat the disorder: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the establishment of April as National Autism Awareness Month;

(2) recognizes and commends the parents and relatives of children with autism for their sacrifice and dedication in providing for the special needs of children with autism and for absorbing significant financial costs for specialized education and support services;

(3) supports the goal of increasing Federal funding for aggressive research to learn the root causes of autism, identify the best methods of early intervention and treatment, expand programs for individuals with autism across their lifespan, and promote understanding of the special needs of people with autism;

(4) commends the Department of Health and Human Services for the swift implementation of the Children's Health Act of 2000, particularly for establishing 4 “Centers of Excellence” at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to study the epidemiology of autism and related disorders and the proposed “Centers of Excellence” at the National Institutes of Health for autism research;

(5) stresses the need to begin early intervention services soon after a child has been diagnosed with autism, noting that early intervention strategies are the primary therapeutic options for young people with autism, and early intervention significantly improves outcomes for people with autism and can reduce the level of funding and services needed later in life;

(6) supports the Federal Government's nearly 30-year-old commitment to provide States with 40 percent of the costs needed to educate children with disabilities under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA);

(7) recognizes the shortage of appropriately trained teachers who have the skills and support necessary to teach, assist, and respond to special needs students, including those with autism, in our school systems; and

(8) recognizes the importance of worker training programs that are tailored to the needs of developmentally disabled persons, including those with autism, and notes that people with autism can be, and are, productive members of the workforce if they are given appropriate support, training, and early intervention services.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2719. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DODD, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. KOHL, Mr. DAYTON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mrs. LINCOLN) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

SA 2720. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr.

KENNEDY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2721. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2722. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2723. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2724. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2725. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. REID) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2726. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2727. Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. BUNNING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2728. Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2729. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2730. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2731. Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. DAYTON, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. MILLER) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2732. Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. LOTT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S.